

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08
TRSE-00 /066 W
-----081907Z 074231 /40
R 081506Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 011
INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 1199

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR MARR NATO OVIP XT FR IT
SUBJECT: WEU COMMITTEE VISIT TO US

1. FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER DE KOSTER HAS ASKED ME IF, ON HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO WASHINGTON MARCH 27-30 AS PART OF THE WEU GROUP, IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE SOME SPECIAL BRIEFINGS FOR HIMSELF AND HIS SOCIALIST COLLEAGUE PIET DANKERT, CHAIRMAN OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE IN THE LOWER HOUSE OF THE DUTCH PARLIAMENT.

2. DE KOSTER'S REQUEST IS NO DOUBT TRIGGERED BY CONCERN THAT, AS A RESULT OF THE DECISION TO CURTAIL THE WEU VISIT BECAUSE OF PRESENCE OF EUROPEAN COMMUNISTS, THE BRIEFINGS WILL BE BOILERPLATE AND THE VISIT OF LITTLE SUBSTANTIVE VALUE. WITHOUT ACTUALLY SAYING SO, DE KOSTER LEFT THE IMPRESSION IT WOULD BE IN OUR INTEREST TO GIVE HIM SOME SPECIAL ATTENTION. HIS LIBERAL PARTY, CURRENTLY IN THE OPPOSITION, IS EXPECTED TO DO WELL IN THE MAY ELECTIONS, AND HE HAS IN THE PAST REFERRED TO HIMSELF AS A POSSIBLE FOREIGN MINISTER, AN EXPECTATION WE THINK SHOULD AT THIS POINT BE TAKEN WITH A GRAIN OF SALT. DANKERT, WHO ALREADY CARRIES MUCH WEIGHT IN HIS CURRENT POSITION, IS AMBITIOUS AND YOUNG AND COULD WELL BE IN THE GOVERNMENT HIMSELF ONE DAY.

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3. I AM AWARE THAT THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS WEU VISIT WILL NOT MAKE IT EASY TO ARRANGE FOR SPECIAL BRIEFINGS OF SOME BUT NOT ALL OF THE WEU PARLIAMENTARIANS, GIVEN PRESENCE OF ITALIAN COMMUNISTS IN THE GROUP AND OF PROBLEMS WHICH MIGHT ARISE SHOULD WASHINGTON DO SO. NEVERTHELESS, SOME SPECIAL ATTENTION TO DE KOSTER DAN DANKERT WOULD BE APPRECIATED AND

IN OUR INTEREST.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE HOW TO REPLY TO DE KOSTER.
MCCLOSKEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Sent Date: 08-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, MARR, OVIP, XT, FR, IT, US, NATO, WEU
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